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City of Rocky Mount Presented with Awards from NC Forest Service

ROCKY MOUNT, NC – Nash County Ranger Bill Lewis with the North Carolina Forest Service presented the City of Rocky Mount with the Tree City USA and Tree Line USA awards during the City Council meeting on Monday, April 25, 2016.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters. This is the thirteenth year the City of Rocky Mount has received the Tree City USA award by meeting the program's four requirements: a tree board; a tree-care ordinance; an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita; and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

"Tree City USA communities see the impact an urban forest has in a community first hand," said Dan Lambe, president of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Additionally, recognition brings residents together and creates a sense of community pride, whether it's through volunteer engagement or public education."

Lewis also presented the city with the Tree Line USA award, which is a national program that recognizes both public and private utilities for their ability to deliver safe and reliable electricity while maintaining healthy community trees.

According to the Arbor Day Foundation, there are many benefits to maintaining community trees, including cleaner air and water, higher property values, improved quality of life, energy conservation and reduced peak demand.

The City of Rocky Mount achieved Tree Line USA by meeting the five program standards: follow industry standards for quality tree care; provide annual worker training in best tree-care practices; sponsor a tree planting and public education program; maintain a tree-based energy conservation program; and participate in an Arbor Day Celebration.



This is the ninth year the City of Rocky Mount has received this award. Rocky Mount is one of only three utility providers in North Carolina and 150 in the nation to earn the Tree Line USA award.

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About the Arbor Day Foundation: The Arbor Day Foundation is a million member non-profit conservation and education organization with the mission to inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees. More information is available at arborday.org.

